have mails that travel by night and day, which know no rest—which know no delay—which rattle and tear through the forest, and the valley, and over the mountain top, as if hitched to a streak of lightning. Arrange your schedule time to minutes and seconds, not to hours and days, and months. Give us—give us, for heaven's sake—dispatch, celerity, certainty. Do this, and then you may properly talk of "the danger of clogging up the mails."

mails."

The moment our mail transportation is increased, the moment we shall have secured dispatch, promptness, and unfailing celerity—that moment the amount of mail matter will increase three-fold. It is not the rate of postage on letters or newspapers that is so oppressive, it is rather the rate of travel—it is the disappointment, the delay, and the everlasting failures in the service, that are felt most.

When a man writes a letter, his first thought, as it is also his last, it as to time—not as to see the last of a last, it is also his last, it as to time—not as to see the last of the last

next day.

Transportation on through routes should, at all Transportation on through routes should, at all hazards, he performed by night, leaving the radiating or inferior routes to be supplied by day. Few persons are probably prepared to appreciate the extraordinary advantage to be derived from such an arrangement. It would, in fact, throw new life and vigor into our whole mail service. It would give a despatch, in the transmission of correspondence, hitherto unheard of. The force of the whole thing consists in this. The day is devoted to business, during which time letters are written; they should no sooner be written than carried off and delivered. Every moment is valuable—worth five times over the insignificant poetage. It is not the more carrying which the correspondent buys; it is rather the time. He cannot use the night in his regular business—he can use it only for sleep. But why should it not be equally available to him as the day? Why cannot his letters, being written, be transmitted by night, while he is reposing, and the information he decires be laid before him the next or the succeeding day? Hours, days, are thus saved, and the Department shares the advantage with those who purchase its speed.

The route agents accompanying the mails should receive all letters tendened along the read, and place them in the proper mails, for destination. This would accommodate a numerous class of letters and packets, originating from immediate and monetary circumstances, and arriving at the poet office after the begs are made up and

ener of setters and packets, originating from imme-diate and monetary elecumstances, and arriving at the post office after the bags are made up and closed.

The transportation service being thus vasily im

closed.

The transportation service being thus vasily improved, our next inquiry is in regard to delivery. There is, in this, as previously suggested, an obvious deficiency. After carrying a letter, or packet, a certain distance, the Dopartment should undoubtedly deliver it with a speed corresponding to that with which it was transmitted. This could easily be done, at a very insignificant cost, at any office surrounded with a population of two thousand and upwards, and embracing, probably, one third of the whole number.

While the immediate delivery would stimulate thousands and thousands to writing letters, upon the stightest in ident of business or social feeding, it would effect a great saving in the dead letter service. The mails, as is well known, are cumbered with the accumulations of uncelled for letters, which, in addition to the expense of alvertising, (which costs just twice as much as I propose to charge for delivery, the entire cost of such advertising being about \$65,000 per annune,) have to be made up in parcels, entered into the quarterly account, and then forwarded to the Goneral Post Onice, where they are opened and burnt. Now all this occasions a great expense, besides the amount of Labor required, and it is, in myopinion, entirely unscensary. The writers of these letters put them into the mail, because they derived the persons addressed to receive them, and I never could see the properticy of the government breaking open a scal, and, are certain draumbances, reading a private attern before they had tendered it to the individual addressed. I venture to assert, that were the earlier remount annually expended in advertising lutters, with the additional amount expended in blanks, &e in connection with dead letters, appropriated to the employment of intelligent and active bays for delivering such letters to me persons addressed, it would prove nearly, if not quite, sufficient to de-

Philadelphia, and elsewhere. In these cities, some of the carrier's districts are dissented more than two miles from the poet with the control policy of the policy of the

time that the delivery is very insecure.

There are a few objections to the system proposed, which, however, may be easily answered. The carriers of some of the merning papers are also collectors, besides which they all fold their own papers. But this could all be done by the central delivery effice. As to folding, a room of large dimensions, expressly adapted to the purpose, should be attached to the central office, under the charge of a competent efficer. The papers, at stipulated hours, should be taken from the different presses, and hauled to the folding room, with all possible speed, where, with twenty or more folding machines, a hundred thousand newspapers could very soon be folded in the usual simple form for delivery. If, however, machinery could not be used for this purpose, there are thousands of destitute boys and girls, now drudging daily, from morning till night, attwo dollars per week. These could be secured for folding, and one hundred of them, in addition to the carriers themselves, could fold all the papers that would come in, within an hour, or, at most eighty minutes. The weekly papers could be folded between times, while magazines and pamphlets are already in suitable shape for delivery. The service of folding would, probably, not require an expenditure of more than \$12,000 per annum, and this should be done at the expense of the publishers.

As to collecting and canvassing for subscribers, this could be performed to better advantage for the publisher than under existing arrangements. Every subscriber would no doubt have a box, and this would authorize the central office in opening an account with him, by which he could pay his subscription, as well as his postage bill, monthly, or quarterly, in advance, as the case might be. At any rate, there could be no more difficulty than is now experienced by carriers in making their collections; for the carriers or newspapers, under present arrangements, make but one visit per day, which happens to be so early in the morning, that very few persons are

very office. Such cases, however, would hardly ever occur. The profits of the delivery offices, it would be

presents to their friends of packages of stamped envelopes; and the offence is one of daily occurrence in Washington. Nor is there really any impropriety in it; for where is the difference between receiving the frank or the matter under frank—I mean so far as the frank itself is concerned. There is none. Nevertheless, it is not within she meaning of the law, and, therefore, I propose the following:—Let appropriations be made by Congress for postage—say three hundred thousand dollars per year, including every department of the general government.

Let the Postmaster General, therefore, issue printed stamps, appropriate to the several departments of the government, and keep them supplied as long as the apprepriation holds out. The stamp for Congressional matter might have a signetic of the Capitol, with the words, "Congress of the United States—free," imprinted on it. Those for the President might have the White shouse for a signetic, with the words, "Executive Department—free," apon them. Similar devices for the War, Navy, and other departments could be introduced, and these appended to letters and packets in the same manner as stamps are now used, would secure them passage through the mails without any further trouble—the mailing postmaster charging the postage, whatever it might be in each instance, to the proper department, or, all this sight be avoided by assigning particular denominations to the stamps, and using them accordingly. A great deal so labor would thus be saved, insamuch as the mesongers who now fold and pack documents an appectage for members of Congress, could also affix the stamps upon them. To be sure, some members would still like to have their names on the latter or packet, to let their constituents know to whose polite attentions they stood indebted—but this could be done just as well with the stamp as without it. It would make no difference whatever.

I would abelish the franking privilege so far as to prevent its travelling with the person enjoying it. It is an official particular the pr

of course I would abolish the fool-hardy privilege forced upon county newspaper publishers, of allowing their papers to pass free in the mails within a specific circuit. Such a privilege rather injures than benefits them; but whether it does or not, the government has no business to do their work at the expense of others. I would likewise prohibit the concy ance of papers over post rouses, to be delivered to subscribers outside of the mail. Such papers as the likewath, Such papers and towns within a circuit of two hundred miles. They are conveyed over raticost in the same trains that convey the mails, and there is no carthy reason why they should not be subjected to postage under my system, especially as it would not enhance the yearly cost to the subscriber, nor would it materially reduce the circulation at points where detireries might be established. These two points reformed, a further item of revenue would be secured, amounting to, at least, one hundred and fifty inpusand dollars per annum.

UNIFORM RATES OF POSTAGE.

I recommend, under my system, a scale of rates as follows:—For any letter weighing under half an ounce, two cents to all parts of the United States, prepaid or not, at the option of the sender. For the purpose of resuring prepayment, however, as far as practicable, there should be a government cavelope introduced, having the word "paid" imprinted upon it, and containing on the back, or seat side, a few simple suggestions as to directing letters, and

purpose of securing prepayment, however, as far as practicable, there should be a government cavelope introduced, having the word "paid" imprinted upon it, and containing on the back, or seat side, a few simple suggestions as to directing letters, and as to the rates of postage for letters, newspapers, books, and transient matter. This would serve as a conspicuous advertisement, and would, no doubt, prevent many of those unfortunate failures the wing out of misdirections and general ignorance of postal affairs, so peculiar to the service. The envelope should, moreover, be stamped with the words, "to be delivered promptly." They should be sold in large or small quantities at every post office, at two cents each, and this would secure the passage of the letter and its delivery to the person addressed, free of postage. Letters sont without a government envelope, should be two cents, whether prepaid or not, and would not call for delivery to the person addressed—nevertheless, delivery should be made with the came promptness as if such envelope were used, but one cent additional should be charged for the delivery. The delivery should be made with the came promptness as if such envelope were used, but one cent additional should be charged for the delivery. The delivery should be made with the additional saving of some \$20,000 no wannually expended in the dead letter service, added to this commission, would prove more than zufficient to pay for the delivery of all letters entitled to it. For letters weighing more than half an ounce, two cents additional should be obarged, unless a four cent envelope should be used, waich would thus include the envelope and the delivery service.

For circulars, unscaled, weighing less than one ounce, one cent, for all distances, prepaid—to be reduced to seventy-five cents per hundred, if more than one hundred of the same circular be brought at the same time, and to fifty cents per hundred if more than one hundred with the matter of the main sheet.

Handbills, newspapers, &c., one cent

stood that without these, or similar reforms, no reductions can ever be made in the rates of postage, nor can the transportation ever be impreved,) which are as follows:—

Resilised from postage for the several departments of the government, for stamped franks, per year.

Realised from the several state governments, for franked stamps, per year.

Saved in reports originating from the account current, &c, including curtailment of ferce in the Auditor's office and General Post Office, pe, year.

150,000

in the Auditor's effice and General Post Office pe, year.
Saved in the mode of establishing post offices
and appointing pestmasters, as well as in the
mode of transportation over special routes,
(the whole cost being over \$500,000,) per
annum.
Saved in substituting checks for post-bills and
wrapping paper.
Realized annually by the money order system,
Saved by the complete abolition of the distribution service, per annum.
Realized by delivery offices, (as New York,
\$20,000; Philadelphia, \$15,000, &c) per annum, from all sources.
Postage on exchange papers, now going free.
Postage on country papers passing free in the
mail within fifty miles, per annum.
Pestage on city papers, carried into other
places for delivery to subscribers, per annum.

Making an annual saving, over the present

system of ... \$1,899,000 I submit the foregoing, without further comment or explanation.

ELI Bowen,

Late of the General Post Office.

100.000

400.000

100.000 50,000

Case of Mr. Thrasher.

HAVANA, Dec. 15, 1851.

The latest papers received by the Isabel and Empire City have confirmed previous suspicions that there has been unfair dealing in Thrasher's case. The Republic asserts that, up to the 4th of December, the government had received no such appeal as that published over Thrasher's name. The Morning Express has reliable authority to say that not a word had been addressed to the government acking its interposition in his behalf as an American ettizen, and that instructions had been given to Sharkey and Owen to interpose vigorously, if newspaper accounts were true. Suspicions have long since been excited that, not withstanding the apparent interest displayed by Owen, he had not forgotten his threats of vengance for supposed wrongs at Thrasher's hands. If the Republic and Express are not guilty of gross falsehood, Owen stands convicted of malicious neglect of duty, and of palpable untruths. Thrasher was known to have been so classified by government order of 6th September, 1850, suspending his editorship of the Firo. It was well known that, since than, he had taken me step affecting his nationality. When he was thrown into close confinement, on the 21st of October, was it not the manifest duty of the Consul to have informed himself of all the facts, and have demanded his release, and, failing in that, to have laid the matter before the Executive of the United States? Thrasher was not present at the reading of the cross, and of course could not have communicated their import. A zealous Censul would have taken proper steps to obtain as full a report as possible of the proceedings, and have sent it to the government. A private individual, during the small hours of the night, and with the terrors of a Spanish court-martial before his eyes, made such a report, son: it for publication, and received it back in print more than fiften days since. The Consul, on the 12st of November. One was directed to take for "law and geopel" the mere assertion (as did have done he same, or more,

Laptain General, to recent as the the hot September, 1800, for claiming him as an American citizen, and owing no aliegiance to the Queen. We have the 7th article of the treaty guaranteeing the trials of American citizens by the known and general laws of the land, and by the ordinary forms—full liber-

of the land, and by the ordinary forms—full liberty to select legal advisers, to have free access to all
the evidence, he present at all the proceedings,
&e. &c. What were the facts!

He was tried by a special court, which has never
been convened except by "virtue of extraordinary
powers" granted, is direct violation of all Spasish
law, as well as the treaty. The Consul has assumed the ground, that asany Spaniard would have
been tried in the same manner, no complaint can
be made by our government. No illegal proceedings, enforced upon Spanish subjects by twenty
thousand bayonets, can be procedents for subjecting
Americans to the same.

What the "extraordinary powers" of the Cap'ain
General aro, we know not, except by their effects.
We know that they have taken men from their beds,
and banished them, without being informed of the
motives by teem fitty men were ordered to be
shot, without even the form of a Spatish trial.
The same powers deprived Thrasher of a lucrative
profession, because he was an American citizen. A

profession, because he was an American citizen. A year inter, in virtue o' the same, a court was con-vened to try him for treason, because he was not

vened to try him for treason, because he was not an American citizen.

These fruits show that they are extremely comprehensive, and sapnot be the order and authority of justice, and the ordinary proceedings required by the treaty. Not only are the proceedings of the authorities in Thrasher's case illegal, but the whole system of dominilation, under which they claim the allegiance of dominilated residents, is illegal, on the following grounds:—

1st. Being contrary to the spirit of international law, to compel a foreign citizen to renounce his religion and country.

2d. The royal decree of 1817, by which it is required, was not issued by competent authority; the

2d. The royal decree of four, by which it is required, was not issued by competent authority; the constitution at that time being legally operative in Cuba, although it was de facto subject to the ururped independent authority of the king, through

Cuba, although it was de facto subject to the prorped independent authority of the King, through force.

3d. Even ceding the point of incompetency, the law prescribes domiciliation, and, after five years, naturalization, with full renunciation of foreign, and assumption of Spanish allegiance, or expalsion from the country. Being two reparate acts, the former cament be of the same tener as the latter nor is it to be supposed that it embraces the special points of the complete naturalization.

4th The "Cole of Jommeron," the general law of the realm, and, by special decree, actended to Cuba, guarantees the privileges utgulated in troative; and when no supulations exist, such privileges as spanish subjects enjoy in his country, any foreigner may claim. In Threaher's case, besides those general points, there is also the nutitity of his domicile in 1834, by its own limitation, to are years, and a subsequent residence in the United States. The domicil having become null and void, the obligations assumed under it must also have ceased. That such was the opinion of this government, the order of September, 1850, is conclusive proof.

It is said that the Consul will produce a certificale of the lady who came from Mobile with letters to the Biskop, that he did not intunate that a timely interference of the Consul would have confirmed the Captain General in his first determination to open one eighteen of the fifty. If the Consul has any such document in his possession, it could only have been obtained by playing upon the maternal fears—it he effect her refusal might have upon the fate of her son. The atidavit of the lady in question has been sent for, and will be sent to the United States, whether it mill see against the Censul or not.

THE FORREST DIVORCE CASE.

Superior Court-Before Chief Justice Oakley. CATHERINE N. FORBEST VS. EDWIN FORBEST.

DEC. 19.—The court room was again densely crowded Dzc. 19.—The court room was again densely crowded this morning, long before the appointed hour for business. The galleries, too, and the passages leading to the court were througed with persons who could not obtain an entrance. Mr. Forrest was amongst the earliest arrivals, and Mr. Dougherty conducted Ann Flowers into court about a quarter before 10 o'clock.

At ten o'clock the Chief Justice took his seat upon the bench, and the special jury being called over, all answered to their names.

Mrs. Forrest, accompanied by another lady, entered shortly after, and the testimony was then proceeded with.

THE TESTIMONY OF ARMA FLOWERS.

Anna Flowers was called and sworn, and being examined by Mr. van Buren, depoed as follows—I live in semined to the property of the property of

Chief Justice—It is not necessary to go into particulars

Mr. Van Buren said he would comply with the suggestion of the Court.

Witness continued—I called Mrs. Forrest, and she did not answer me; I then commenced crying: Mrs. Forrest then said to me, "Anna, what's the matter?" I said I was afraid to sleep alone, nothing further was said, and I went back into the hedroom where I had been; Mrs. Forrest came in, in about fifteen or twenty minutes after that; there was no light in the hedroom where Mrs. Forrest and Captain Howard were; I had to pass out into the entry from the room; my door was entirely eyen, the other was hair shut: Mrs. Forrest came to bed to me after that; ab told me anot to cry—that she only went in there to see if there users sheets on the bed;" there were no clothes on the bed but a bianket; I do not remember remarking anything in Mrs. Forrest walking at the t me. I saw her taking two glasses of wine that evening; I saw Captain Howard, next morning, in that bedroom: there was nothing on the bed but a bianket and two polluces without pollow cases. I have menitoned this to Mrs. Forrest; I mentioned it is hard in the house, before she is if for England; she hold me, next norming, here: Io mention ii, that was in the dining room. I was setting the breakfast table, she hold me to go up rishes, and table Captain firsward a combard brosh, and a shirth one of Mr. Forrest's shirts, that she had the on the hold when the Captain Howard, I went downstains in the dining room is the set of the the business in the dining room is set to see the set of the ship in the polymer year. 1830, it was a prevant, and I don't want you to mention anything year self with burse, in othing further occurred; I was about if con years of apt then I remained there to his bed, in the house, as a remain the lafter part of August or first of September that I was then in hea, I could not see that Mr. Godwin slept in the blow here here to the here that was in Philadelphia at her time. I sid not see that Mr. Godwin slept in the hou Mr. Van Buren said he would comply with the sug-

tering from the quartery account, and then received most of the quartery account, and then received most of the postage, and a property of the quartery account, and then the property of the quartery account, and then the property of the quartery account, and then the property of the property of

Forrest's uniform treatment of you? A.—Always we kind; it was her sister Margaret engaged me; Mr. Dougi crty paid my expenses coming here and while I am her To the Chief Justice—It was the year '48 I speak of it New Orleans.

No the Childry Justice—it was not year so I peak on 19 and 19 comments by Mr. O'Gonor.—I introduced my self to Miss Sinclair at Twenty-second street; I don't remember and introduced to hear; I don't know her other name; the was married after; the international control of the control of the

the Irving, it was the second day of my arrival; I had seen Bir. Lawsen before I had seen Dougherty in Mercer street. Q.—What house was that? A.—I think it was a boarding house, named Wilson's; I went there on my own motion; there was a gen'leman with me from the Irving House; I don't know his name; I wanted to go there and see Mrs Forrest and they said I had better have some one go with me. Q.—Who said that? A.—Mr. Forrest said it; it was at the Irving House he said so; all those gentlemen, Commissioners, I have named were present; Dougherty and Mr. Sedgwick were present; I don't know his a man named Patterson was present; there were others besides those named; I think there were two others.

Q.—When these gentlemen, whom you call Commissioners, were present, was your deposition taken? A.—Yes, I signed and swore to it; they were about half an hour or an hour with me on that occasion; Mr. Sedgwick never called can me again; I never saw hum, that I know of, but once; I never made any deposition or statement but that one while I was on here at that time; I don't know that I spoke in the hearing of the Commissioners about going to Mrs. Forrest; it was not one of that company that went with me to Mrs Forrest; I didn't go to Mercer street that day; it was the next day that I went. Q.—Who necommended of introduced you to the gentleman my secont, ted in each of the company that went with me to Mrs Forrest; I didn't go to Mercer street that day; it was the next day that I went. Q.—Who necommended of introduced you to the gentleman my secont, ted in each say, I am not positive; it was the next morning I was introduced to him, but I can't say, I am not positive; it was the next morning I was introduced to him; it hat gentleman my secont, ted in we were region; until he told me. I did not know anything about the place I was gening to in erlest to meet Mrs. Forrest, I remained at that house from a bout 10 o'clock in the morning ill about 5 o'clock; I was viaited by Dougherty while in that house; I wished to see Mrs. Forres

ar fact.

Mr. O'Coner said he was much obliged to the counse!

Mr. O'Coner said he was much obliged to the counse!

or teaching him the rules of evidence, though he did
how as mething about it a short time ago

Witness ecotiomed—I did not go to Brooklyn, because
I did'nt feel like it! I intended to go there to chop, to
huy stampe to stamp children's dresses; I did not know
where to get such thiners in New York; I expected to get
them at, I think, Mrs. Miller's in Fulcenstree; Mr. Forrest told me not to go to the house where Mrs. Forrest told me not to go to the house where Mrs. Forrest told me not to go to met Mrs. Forrest told me not to go to met Mrs. Forrest told me not to go to met Mrs. Forrest told me not to go to met Mrs. Forrest told me a place to go to met Mrs. Forrest told me not to go to met Mrs. Forrest told me not go to met Mrs. Forrest told me a place to go to met Mrs. Formet, I don't know who paid my bill at Mrs. Wilsen's; I returned home to New Orieans by land; I went
to Albany and Buffale: I received no money, except
what I received from Mr. For-rest, for my expenses, he
gave me \$50 to pay my expenses home, and \$75 which
I had paid for my pusags here; I received no other
money in any shape or form: I believe I promised to come
tack when needed; thete was nothing said about paying
my expenses for returning; I did not ome again, for one
of my children was very sick. Q.—How roon, after you refused to come, did you go to Texas? A.—
I can't say: I did not get one cent compensation, for coming; I don't expect any, I saw an advertisement in a newspaper in this city after I came
here: Mr. Doughetty showed it to me; It hink it was the
Hrann; he showed it to me in Mercer street; I had not
seen it before he showed it to me; he did not explain
anything about it; he handed me the paper, and said,

"Do you see that?" I said, "Yes," I did not say anything else; he left the room [Two notes produced]
Q.—are those the notes you addressed to Mrs. Fornotes; this second one is like

The Civil outcome of the state of the state